



# Approaches to Multidisciplinary Design Optimization

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# Presentation Overview

- What is multidisciplinary design optimization?
  - Why use it?
  - How is it used?
- Example MDO application
- Computational challenges in MDO
- Example surrogate modeling application



# What is MDO?

- Multidisciplinary design optimization (MDO):
  - is a methodology for the design of systems in which strong interactions between disciplines motivates designers to simultaneously manipulate variables in several disciplines
  - involves the coordination of multiple disciplinary analyses to realize more effective solutions during the design and optimization of complex systems

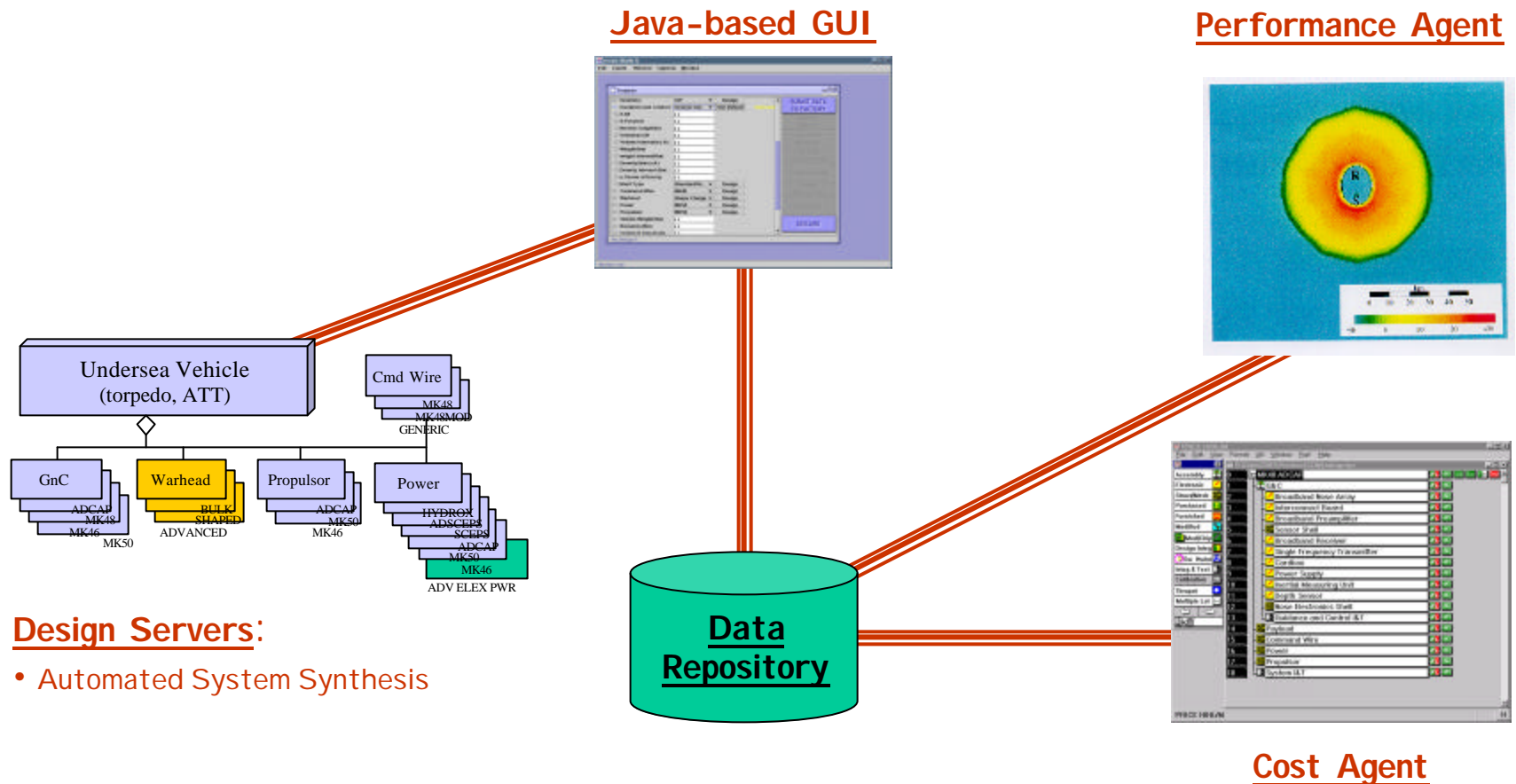
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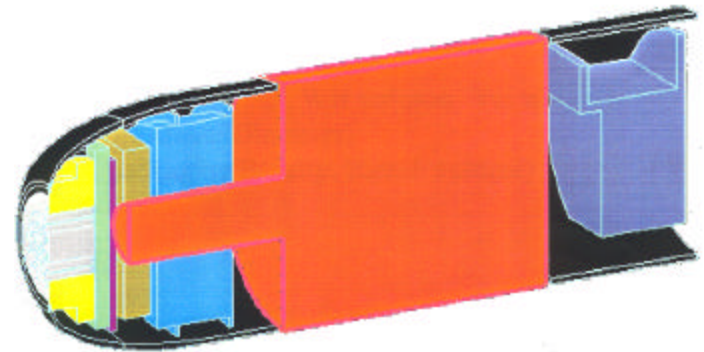
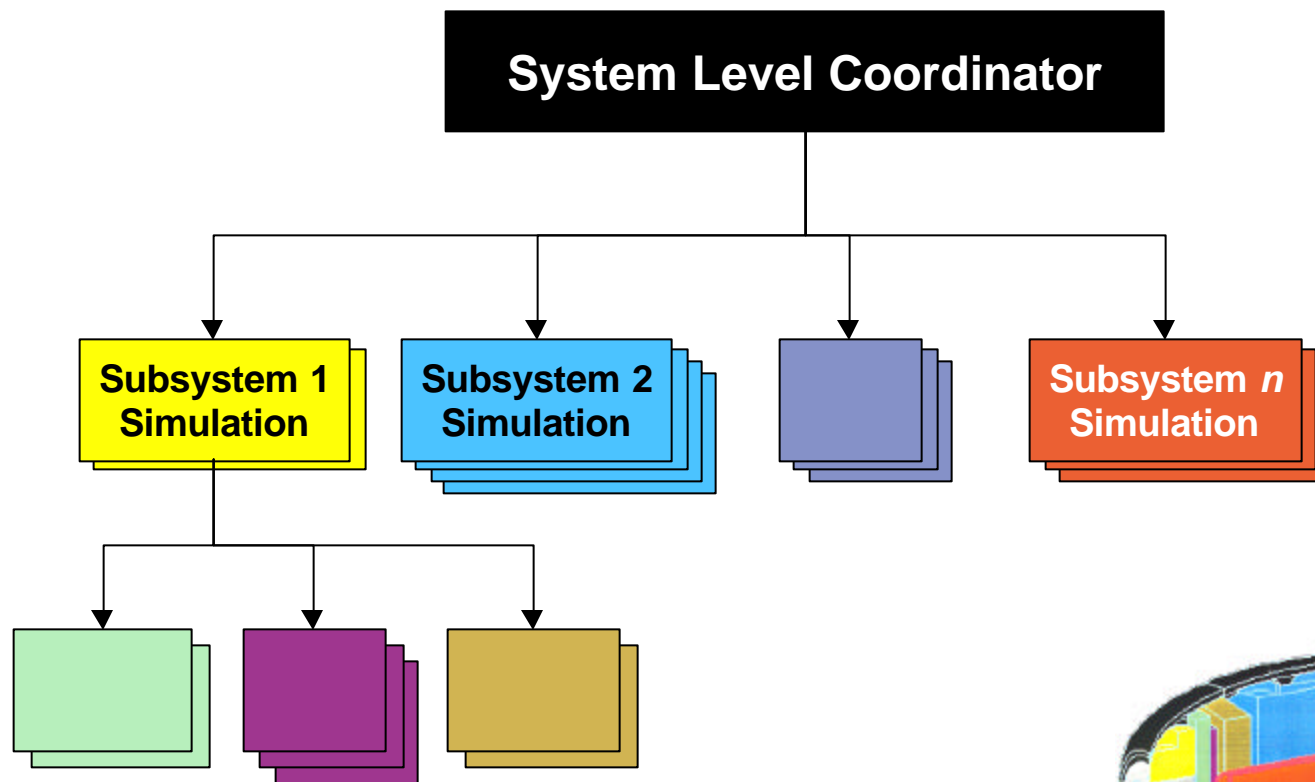
# Simulation-Based Design Architecture



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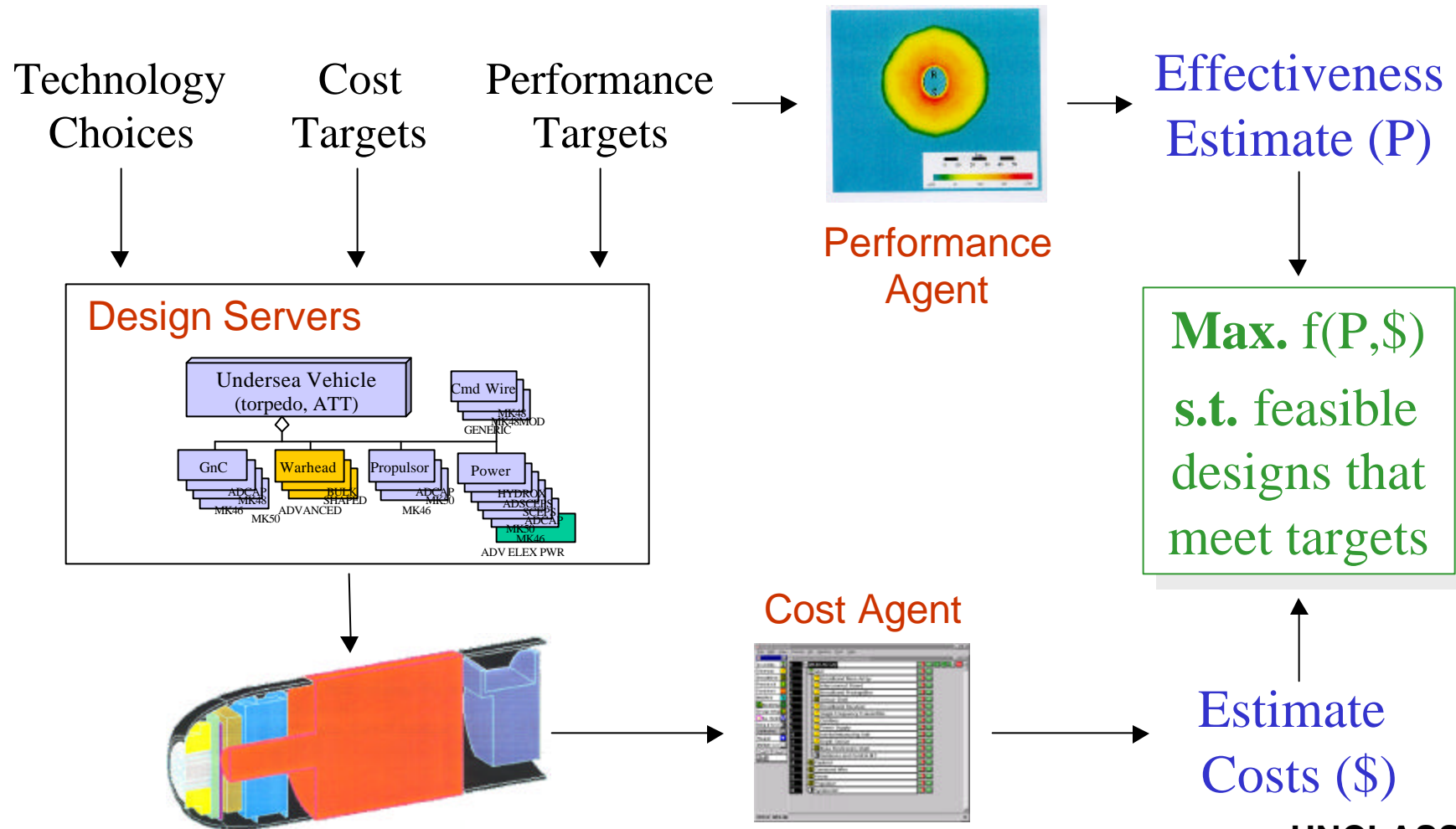


# Design Server Interactions





# System-level Objective





## How is it used?

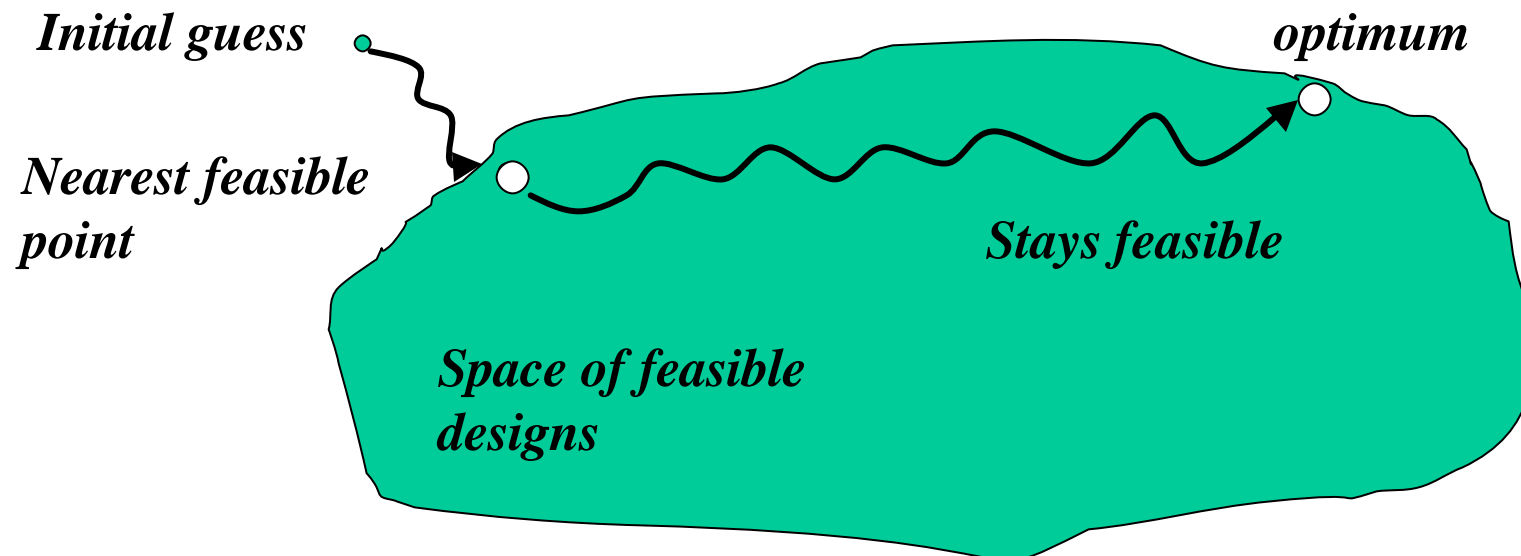
- Using MDO involves:
  - decomposing the system into multiple subsystems or disciplinary analyses
  - developing mathematically models and analyses for:
    - the “parent” system
    - each subsystem and its interactions
  - selecting an appropriate MDO formulation and algorithm
  - solving the MDO problem to generate solutions





# Multiple Discipline Feasible

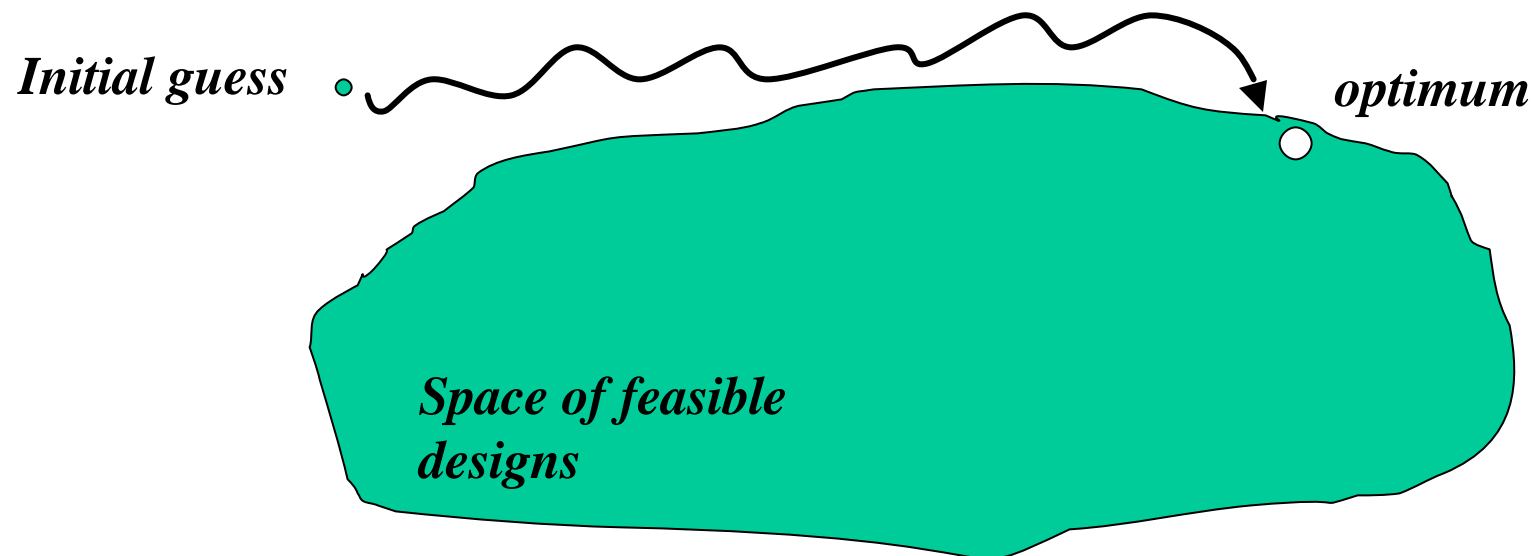
- Get feasible and stay feasible
- Implies each iteration is a two part process:
  - move to improve design
  - re-establish feasibility





# Individual Discipline Feasible

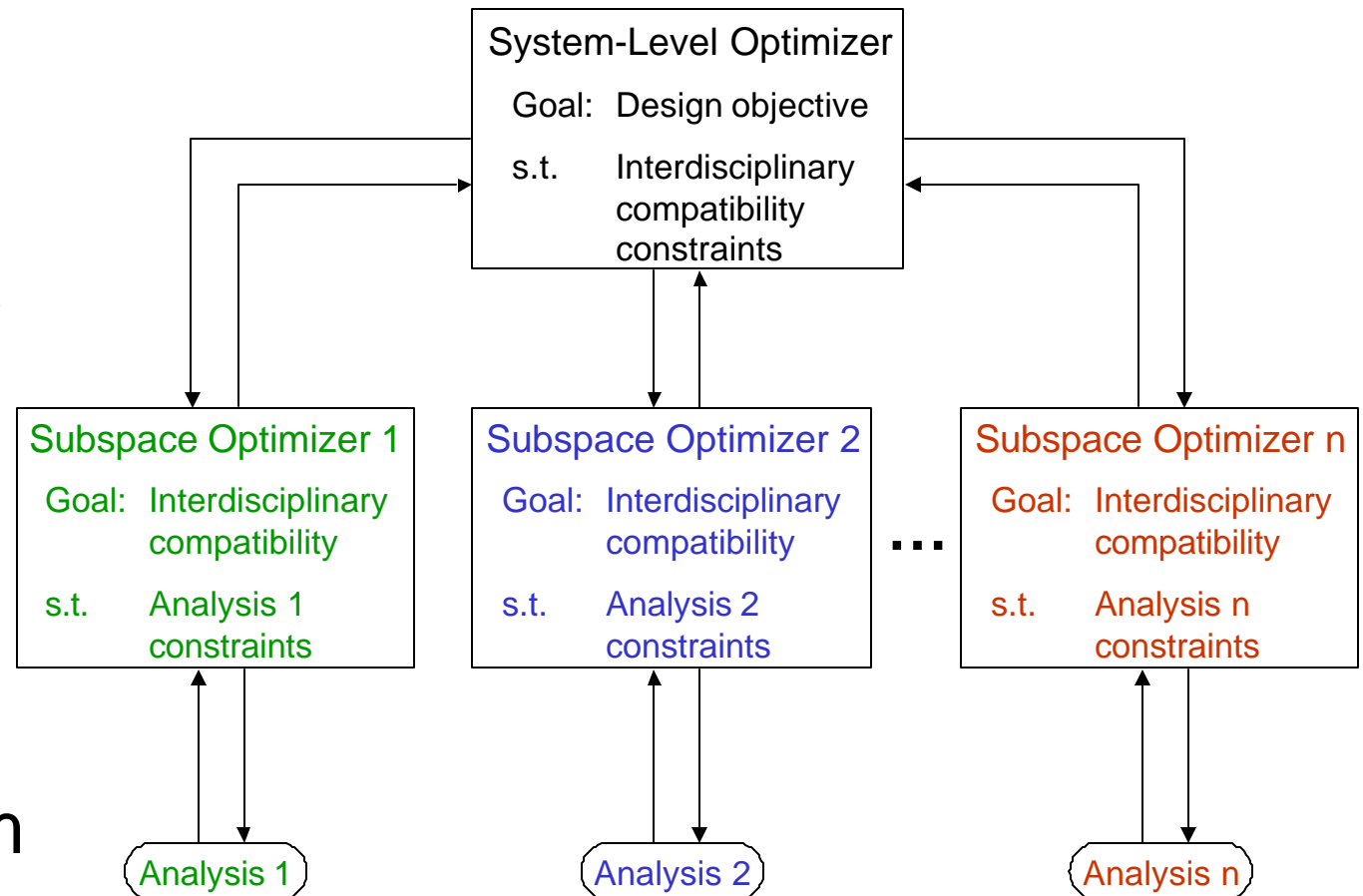
- Go straight to optimum
- Since optimum usually on boundary, not feasible until optimal
  - equivalent to discrepancy = 0





# Collaborative Optimization

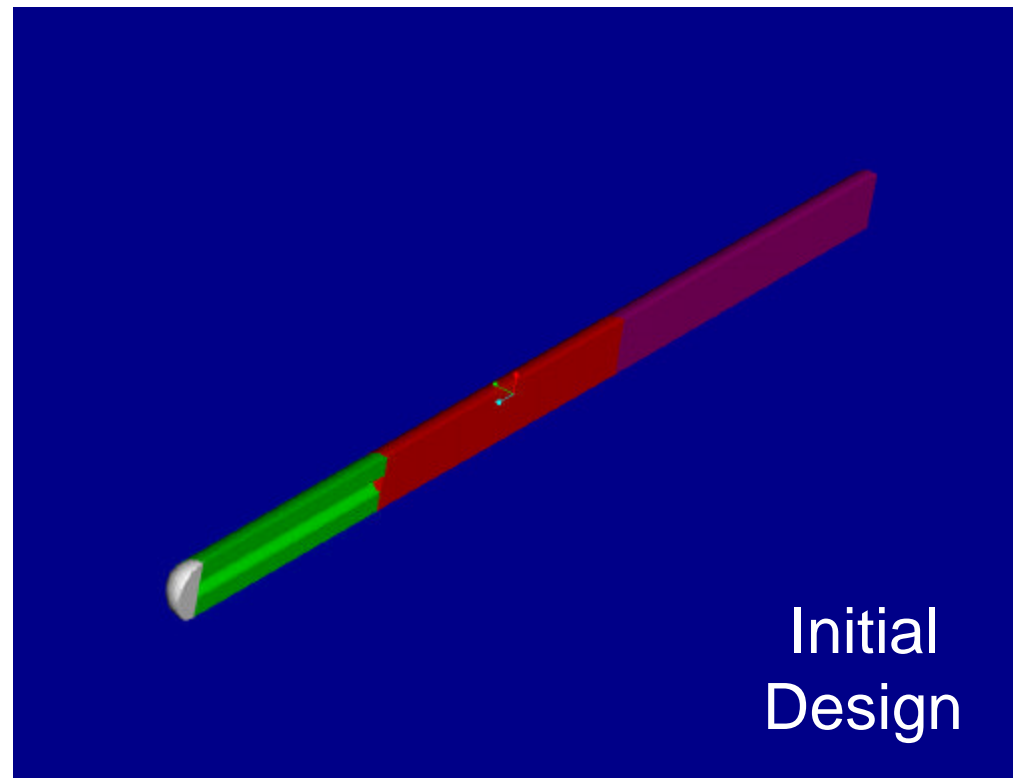
Decompose  
system into  
smaller units  
that can be  
individually  
optimized  
and then  
synthesized  
into a system





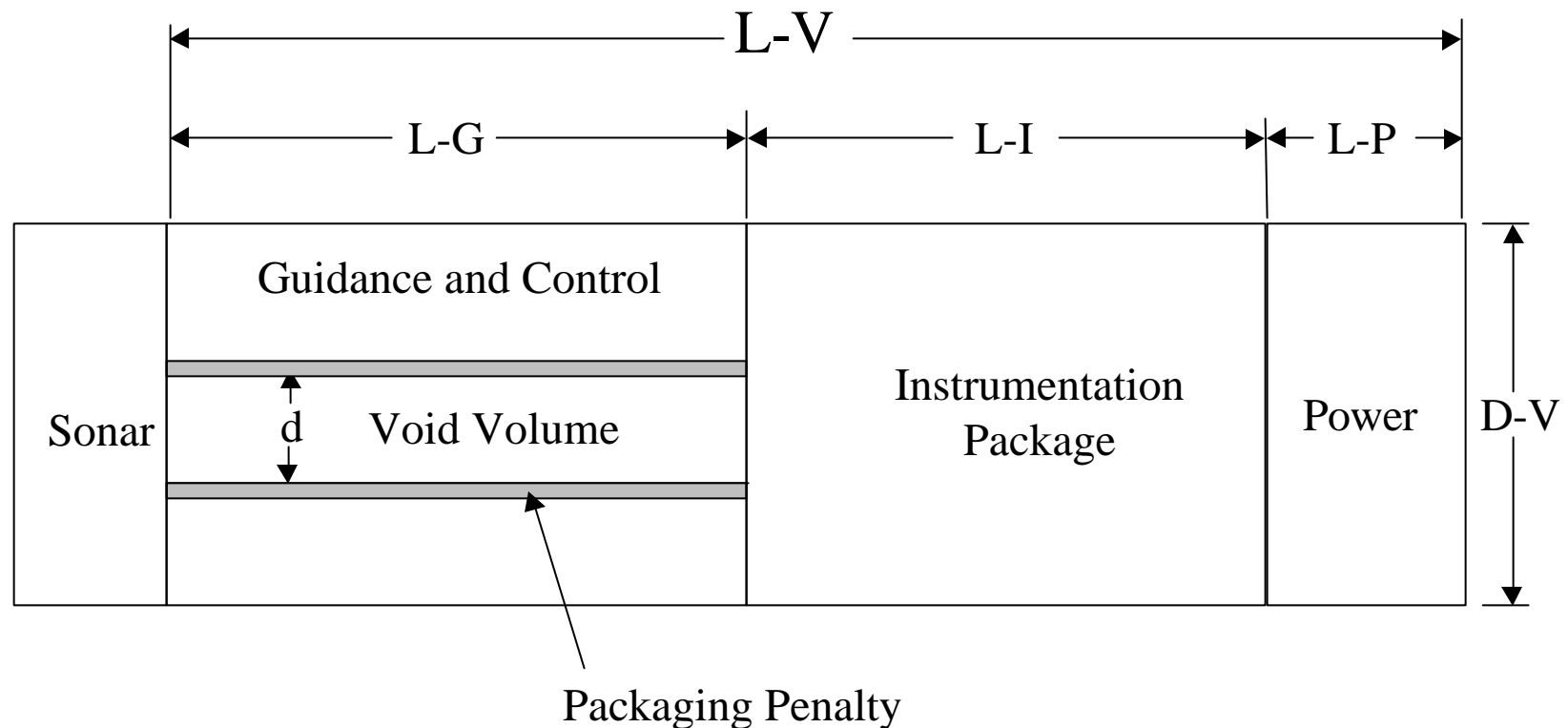
# Underwater Exploratory Vehicle

- 4 Subsystems:
  - Guidance & Control
  - Instrumentation
  - Power
  - Propulsion
- Subsystem analyses developed by Erik Halberg (M.S., ME)
- 7 Design Variables:
  - Volumes





# Underwater Vehicle Example

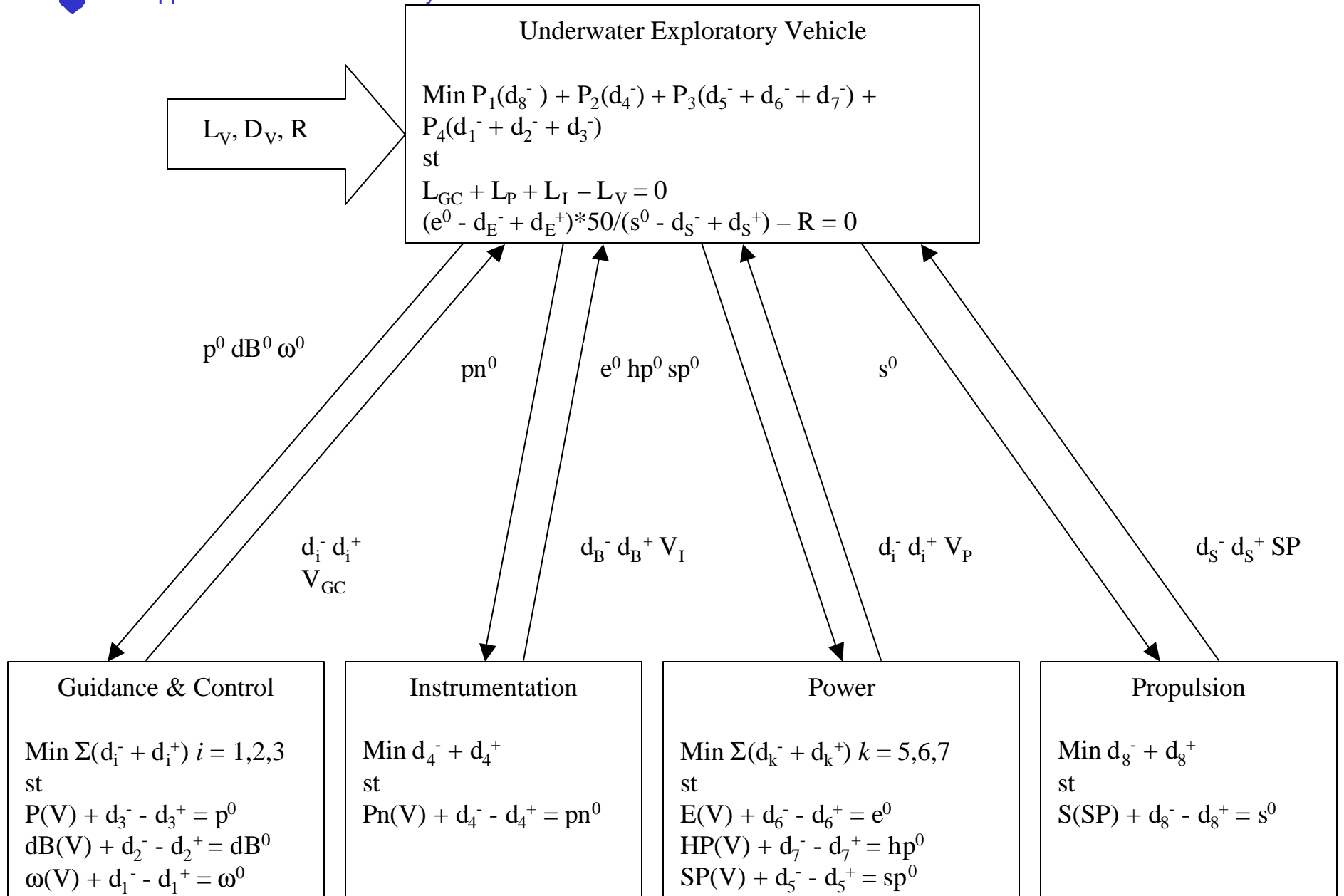


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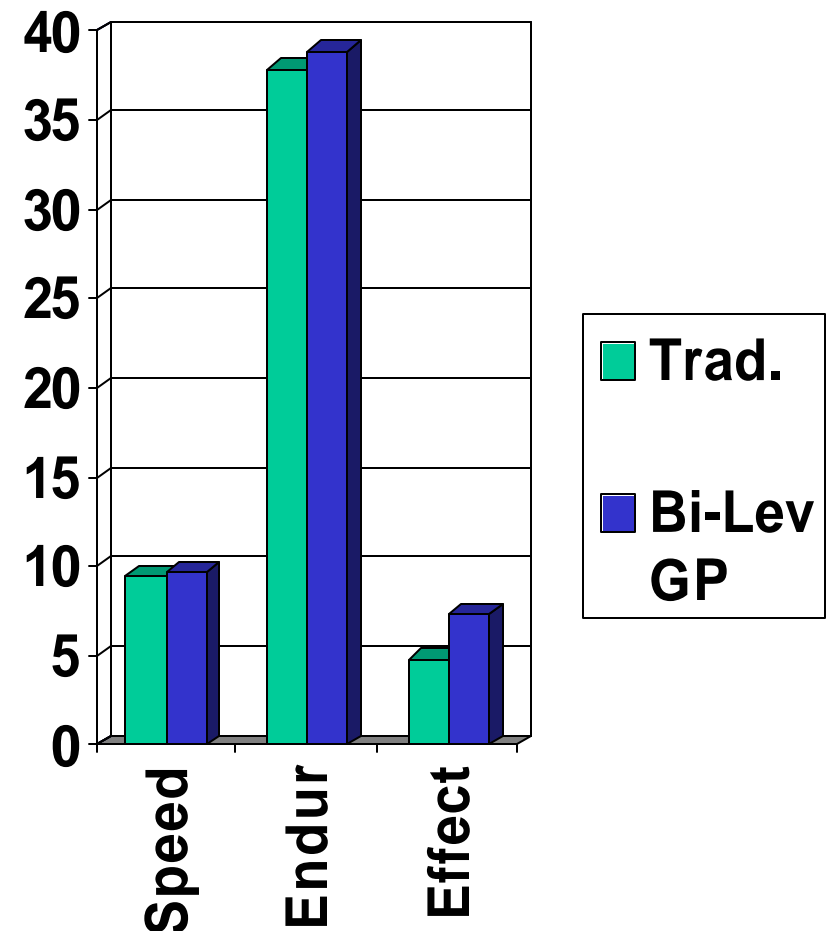


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# Vehicle Performance

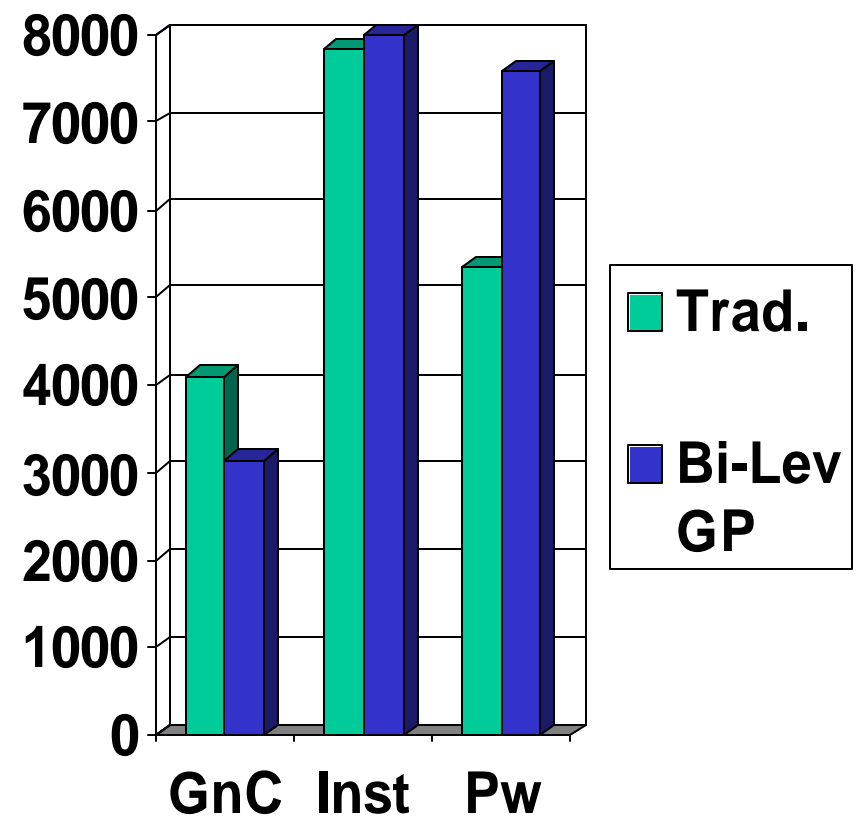
- MDO formulation yields superior performance:
  - Speed
  - Endurance
  - Effectiveness





# Vehicle Optimization

- Final Design:
  - Slightly different configurations
- Solution Time:
  - 1 minute vs. 3 hours





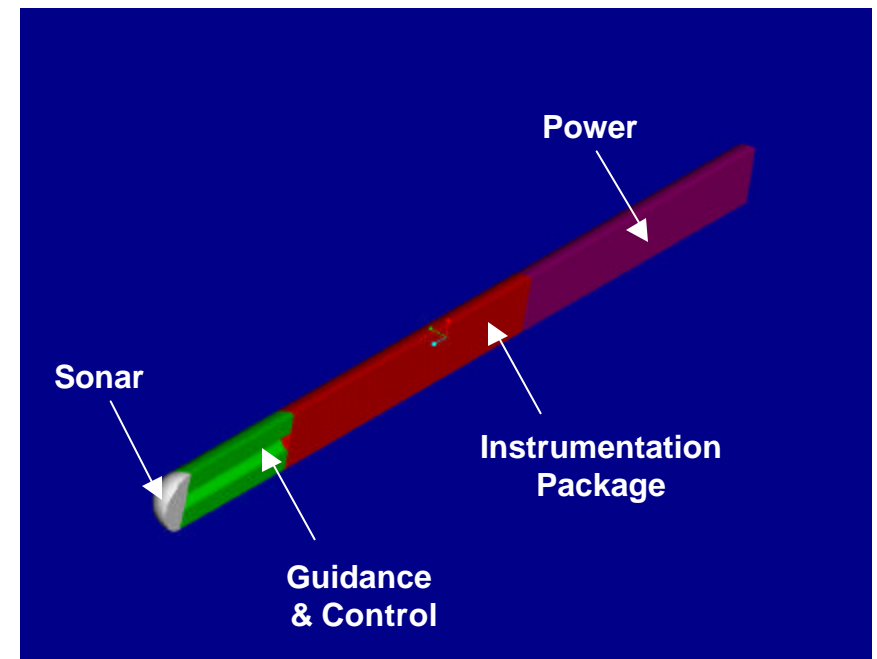
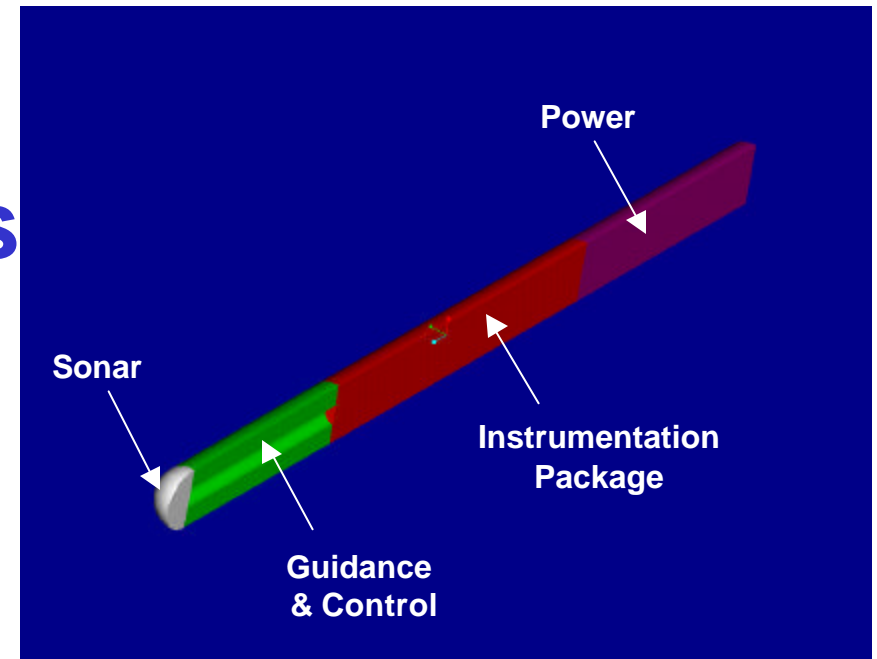
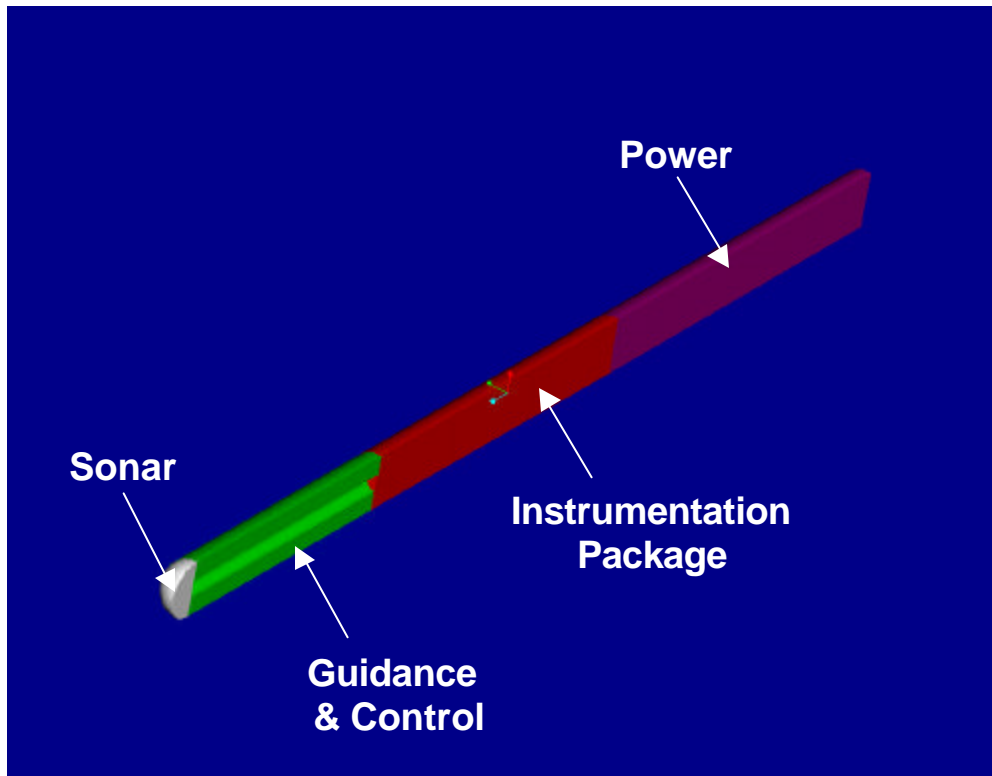
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# Vehicle Configurations



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# Computational Challenges in MDO

- In MDO, computer simulation codes are:
  - often “black-box” in nature
  - discipline-specific
  - composed in different languages (e.g., Fortran, C, Java)
  - distributed, both geographically and on different computer platforms
  - computationally expensive due to fidelity of modeling and need for accurate results



## Surrogate Models for MDO

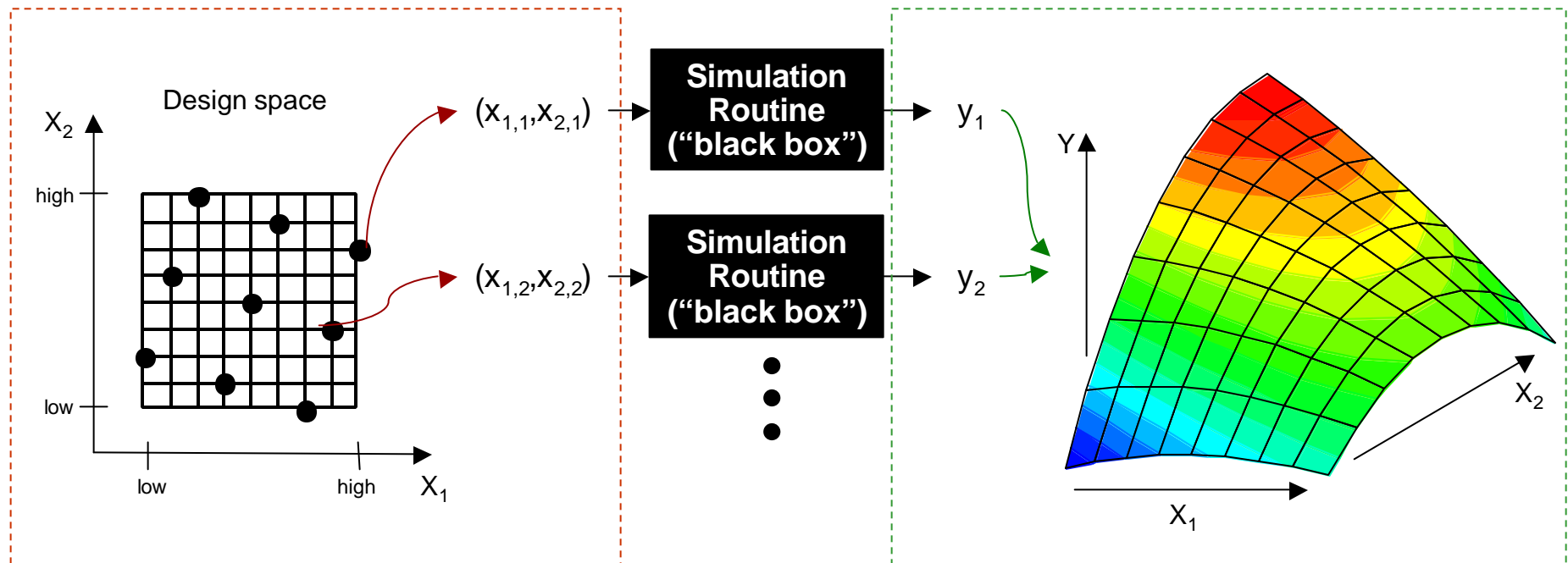
- Surrogate models are fast, simple approximations of computationally-expensive computer simulations and/or analyses
- They provide a “model of a model” which can be used in place of the original computer simulation
- Surrogate modeling can be used to generate “smart objects” that can be used in place of the original analyses and integrated within any SBD infrastructure



# Overview of Surrogate Modeling

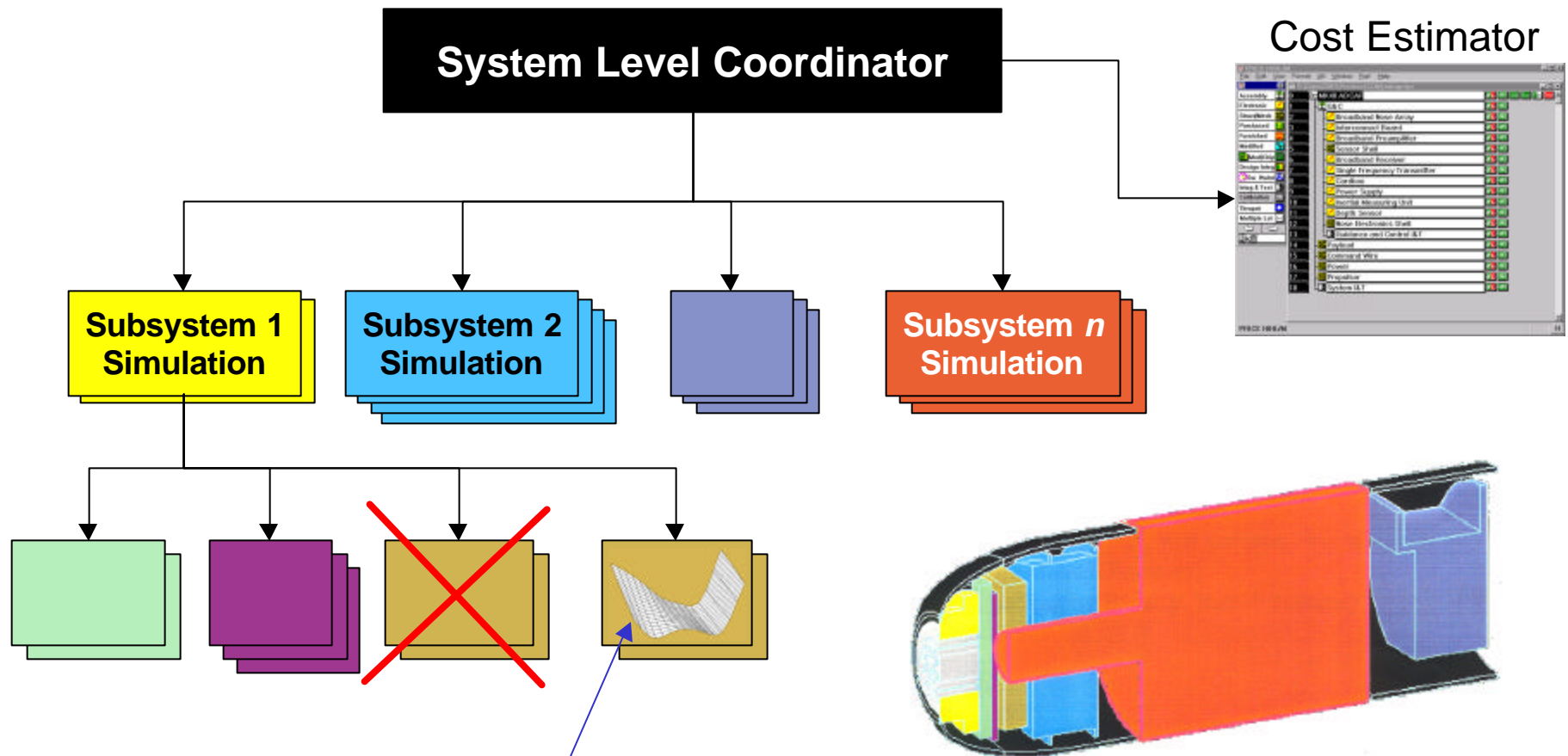
Generate simulation data using design of experiments capability

Use surrogate modeling capability to construct a “model of the model”





# Surrogate Models in MDO

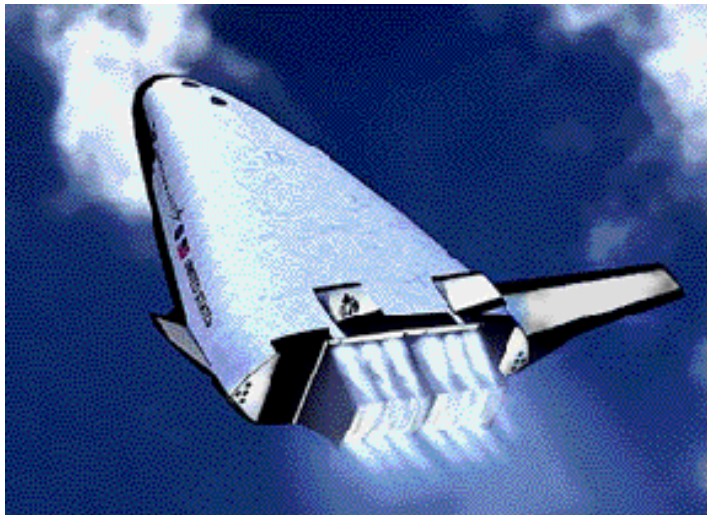


Each sub-system or disciplinary analysis can be replaced by a surrogate model and invoked by the higher-level coordinator

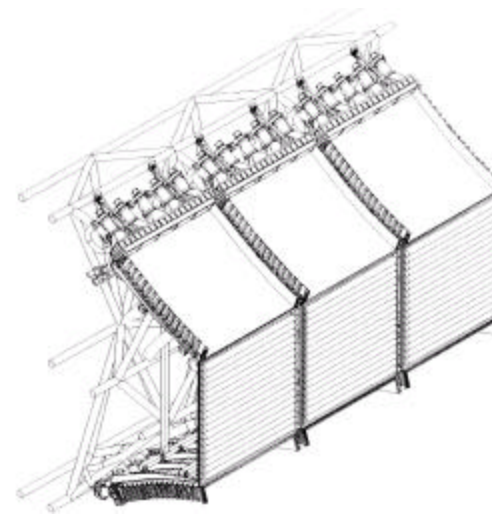


## Application: Rocket Nozzle

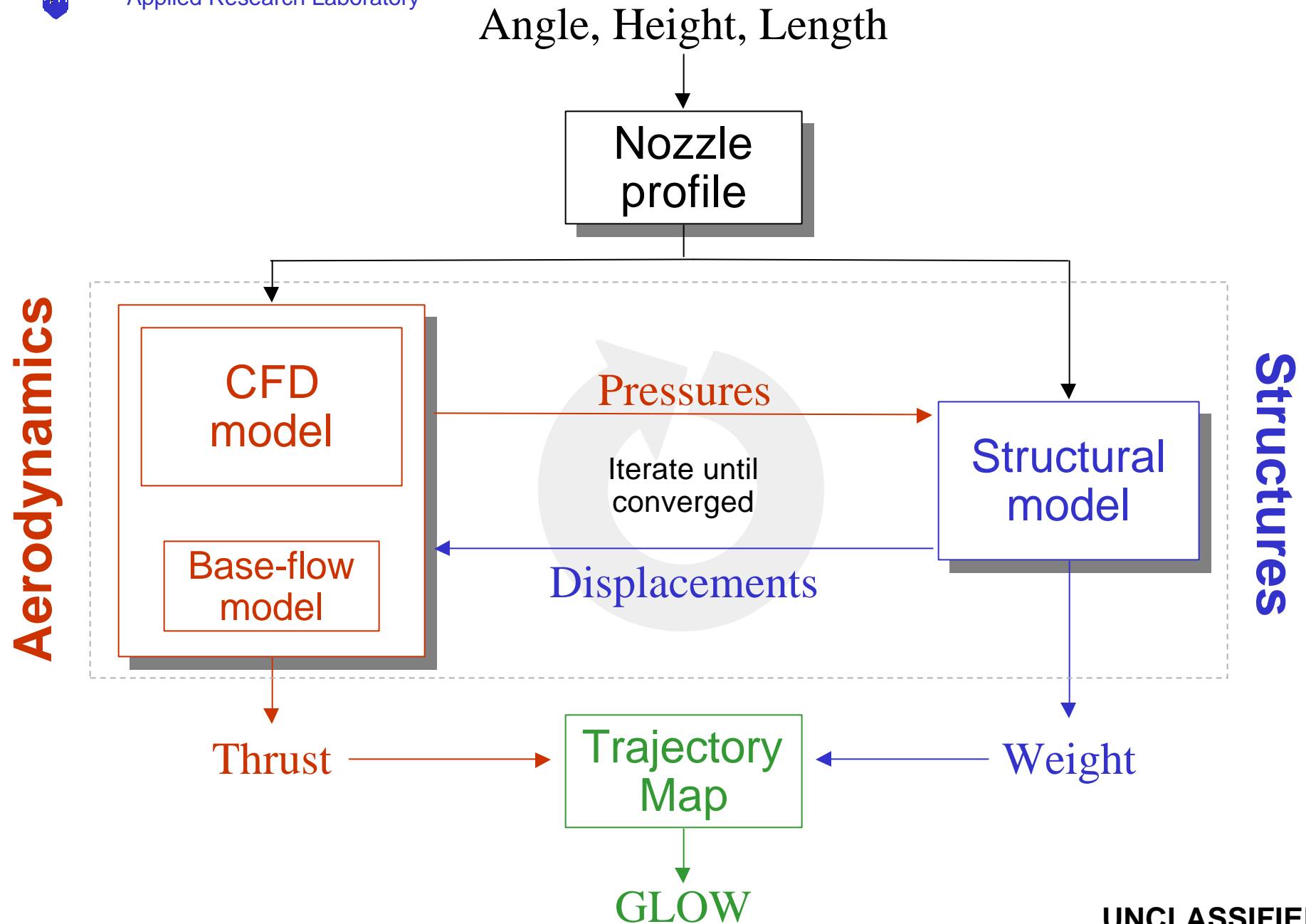
- Utilize surrogate models to facilitate multidisciplinary design and optimization of an aerospike rocket nozzle for the next generation shuttle



Venture Star RLV



Aerospike Nozzle



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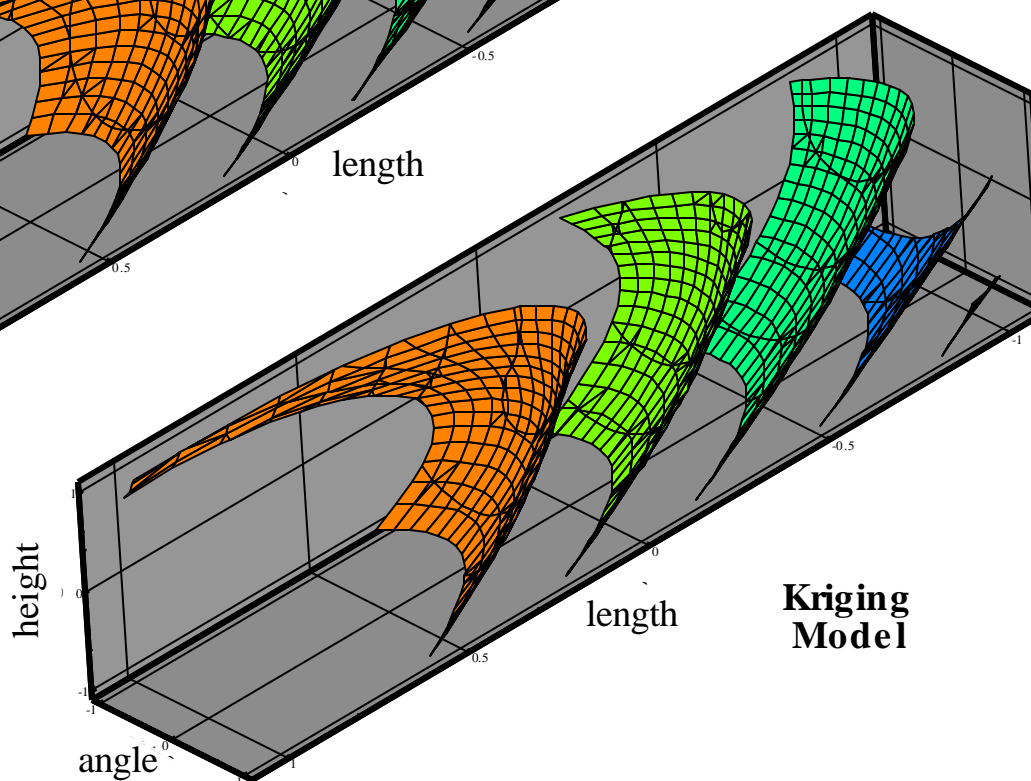
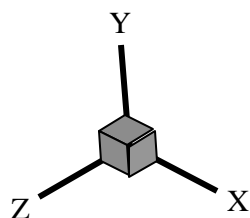
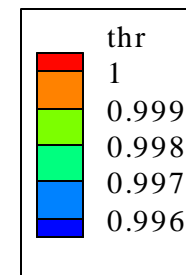
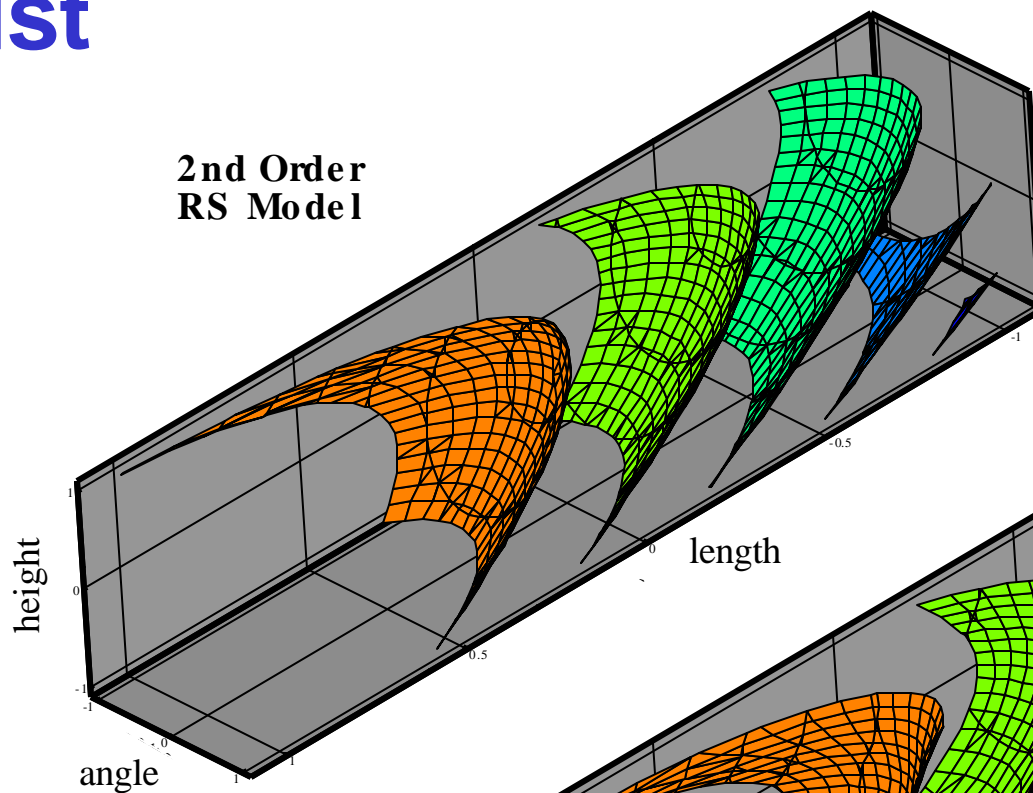
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# Thrust

2nd Order  
RS Model



Kriging  
Model

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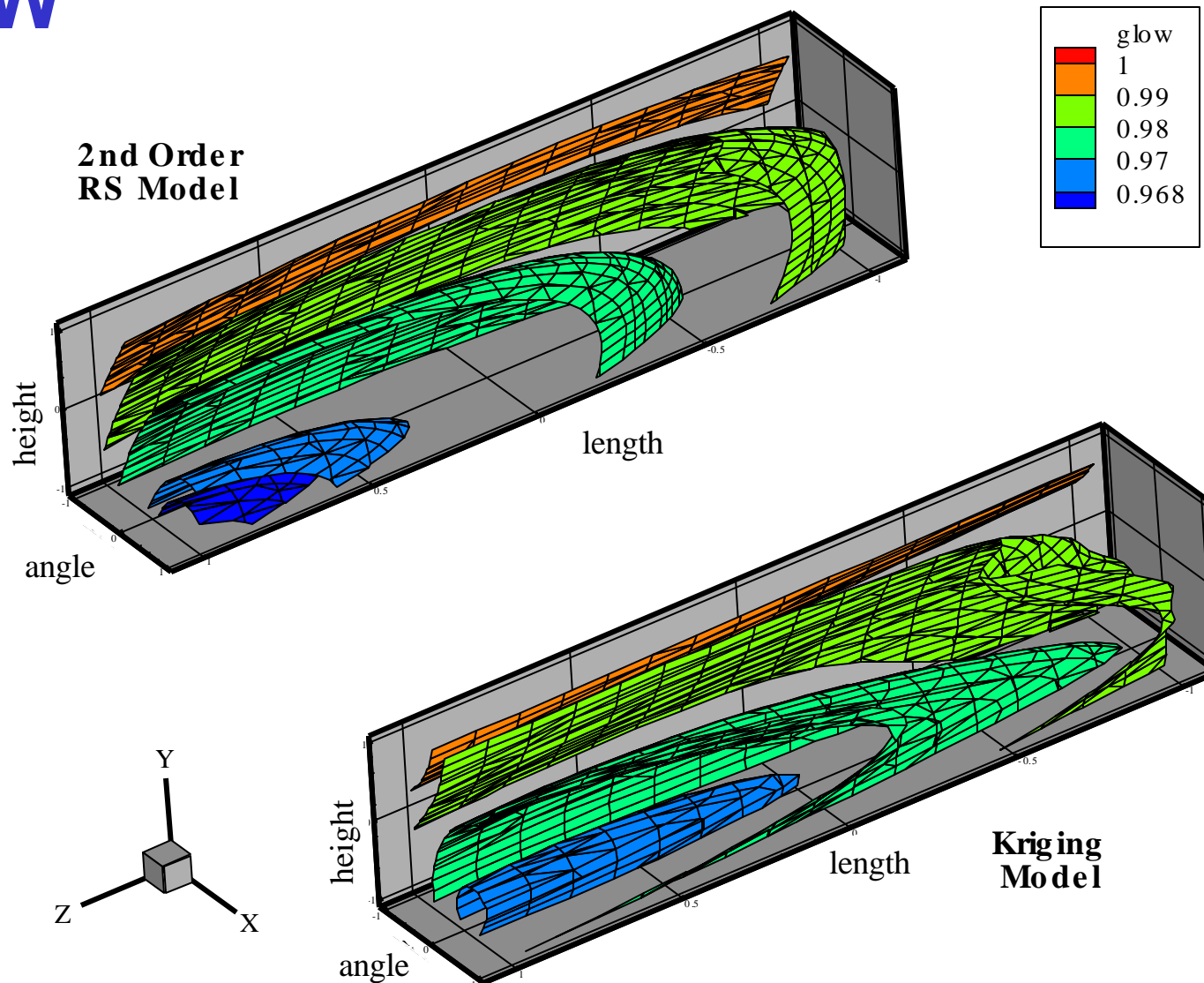
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# GLOW



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## Closing Remarks

- MDO involves the coordination of multiple disciplinary analyses to realize more effective solutions during the design of complex systems
- Surrogate models can be used to address many of the computational challenges associated with MDO
- MDO formulations that incorporate uncertainty are currently being investigated



## For Further Reading

- McAllister, C. D. and Simpson, T. W. Multidisciplinary Robust Design Optimization of an Internal Combustion Engine, *ASME Design Technical Conferences - Design Automation Conference (Diaz, A., ed.)*, Pittsburgh, PA, September 9-12, ASME, Paper No. DETC2001/DAC-21124.
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- Jin, R., Chen, W. and Simpson, T. W., "Comparative Studies of Metamodeling Techniques under Multiple Modeling Criteria," *8th AIAA/NASA/USAF/ISSMO Symposium on Multidisciplinary Analysis and Optimization*, Long Beach, CA, AIAA, 2000, AIAA-2000-4801, to appear in *Journal of Structural and Multidisciplinary Optimization*.